

No. 2

# Armor Manufacture—Private or by Government—A Question of Price

## To the Members of Congress:

The sole question involved in the scheme to spend \$11,000,000 to build a Government armor factory—and supplant the three existing private plants—is whether by such method the people will save money.

Rear-Admiral Strauss, Chief of the Naval Bureau of Ordnance, said, at a hearing before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs on January 25:

"If the private firms will furnish armor at a fair profit and will continue to do so under all conditions, I see no especial advantage to the Government in going into the business."

There are several reasons why a Government plant would realize no advantage in price, namely:

**First** The United States is to-day paying \$425 a ton for armor, an amount substantially lower than is paid by Japan, Austria, Germany, England, or France.

England buys its armor from five privately owned plants, and is now paying \$508 a ton. Germany has two privately owned plants, and is paying \$490 a ton. Japan is the only country with a government plant, and yet armor costs her \$490 a ton.

The specifications in the United States are much more rigid and the wages paid are very much higher than those prevailing in any foreign country.

**Second** We now offer to make armor plate for the United States Government at \$395 a ton—a reduction of \$30 a ton, in spite of the fact that steel prices are continually going up, and are to-day much higher than for many years.

The proposed price is less than has been paid for armor by the United States in ten years, and we agree to accept this lower price for the next five years.

Since the War began we have been able to get in Europe almost any price we chose to ask for ordnance. We have during that period made no addition whatever to the selling price to the United States Government of any of the ordnance products which we manufacture.

**Third** If the foregoing price is not satisfactory, we will agree to permit any well-known firm of chartered public accountants or the Federal Trade Commission to inventory our plant and make careful estimates of the cost of manufacture; with that data in hand we will meet with the Secretary of the Navy and guarantee to manufacture armor at a price which will be itself quite as low as the lowest price at which the Government could possibly make it, taking into account all proper charges.

We make the foregoing proposition, rather than have our plant rendered useless.

We have invested over \$7,000,000 in that plant, as inventoried to-day, not taking into account large sums—certainly \$2,000,000—expended for plant and equipment abandoned because of becoming obsolete.

Our armor plant is useless for any other purpose. The United States is our only customer and if that customer is lost the plant becomes valueless.

Our offer in effect is to make armor for the United States at a price the Government itself shall name as fair.

CHAS. M. SCHWAB, Chairman  
EUGENE G. GRACE, President

Bethlehem Steel Company

## DEMOCRATS MAKE BANQUET PLANS

William F. McCombs to Attend Jefferson Day Dinner Thursday.

## STATE CHAIRMEN TO MEET

District Democrats Co-operate with Common Counsel Club in Arranging for Gathering at Willard.

William F. McCombs, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has accepted the invitation of the Common Counsel Club to attend the Jefferson Day banquet to be given at the New Willard Hotel Thursday evening in honor of the forty-nine Democratic State chairmen. Mr. McCombs is also expected to address the conference of State chairmen to be held Thursday morning when a general discussion of campaign plans will be followed by the adoption of a uniform method of action in the States for the coming political fight. Roland S. Morris, chairman of the Pennsylvania State committee, who issued the call for the conference, is expected to arrive in Washington tomorrow to perfect plans for the gathering.

Vice President Marshall and five members of the Cabinet, Postmaster General Burleson, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, Secretary of the Interior Lane, Secretary of Agriculture Houston and Secretary of Labor Wilson will be present, as also will a great number of Democratic Senators and Representatives.

Nineteen of the State chairmen have definitely accepted the invitation, and several others will be represented by vice chairmen or other members of the State committee with proxies.

## Conference National in Scope.

The national character of the conference and the political importance of the banquet is indicated by the list of acceptances from chairmen of State committees. Besides Mr. Morris, of Pennsylvania, other chairmen who will attend are: W. H. Gaither, of Colorado; S. R. Thurman, of Utah; S. G. Hopkins, of Wyoming; C. A. Warren, of California; Edward E. Groscup, of New Jersey; J. W. Reynolds, of Iowa; L. D. Hill, of Tennessee; J. H. McBeath, of Mississippi; R. E. Mattingly, of District of Columbia; George E. Farrant, of Nebraska; Edmund C. Shields, of Michigan; James E. Kennedy, of Vermont; H. H. Perry, of North Dakota; J. Taylor Ellyson, of Virginia, and Thomas D. Warren, of North Carolina.

Considering the fact that this is the first conference of State chairmen ever called, the large attendance already assured makes the meeting one of prime political importance.

Mr. McCombs and Mr. W. R. Hollister, acting secretary of the National Committee, will make the arrangements for the reception of the State chairmen.

Invitations have been sent to William Jennings Bryan, Alvin H. Parker, Judson Harmon, Henry Waterson, Richard Olney and several other Democrats of national prominence. As Mr. Bryan is engaged in the State primary campaign in Nebraska, it probably will be impossible for him to come, but he is expected to send a telegram.

The subject of the address to be delivered by President Wilson has not yet been announced, and it may be that the address will be made by the Senator from Washington, Mr. Charles W. Darr, who is expected to speak on "Three Years of the New Freedom." Senator Hollis on "What the Administration Has Done for the Farmer," and Representative Glass on "The New Banking."

District of Columbia Democrats are co-operating with the Common Counsel Club in arranging for the banquet. Capt. John S. Miller, who had charge of the famous harmony banquet in 1912, is in charge of the seating arrangements. District Chairman Mattingly, National Committee Chairman Costello, W. McK. Clayton, Charles W. Darr and other Washington Democrats are also assisting the club committee on arrangements.

Open 8:30 A. M.

Close 5:30 P. M.

"THE BUSY CORNER"  
**S. Kann Sons & Co.**  
5TH ST. AND PENNA. AVE.

A VERY SPECIAL SALE TODAY  
**Women's High (8-Inch) Boots**

At  
**\$3.95**  
Pair

Regular \$6.00 and \$6.50 Qualities.

Just 350 pairs in this very fortunate purchase of the newest styles.

Shoes you want for wear with your new Easter costume. Select from

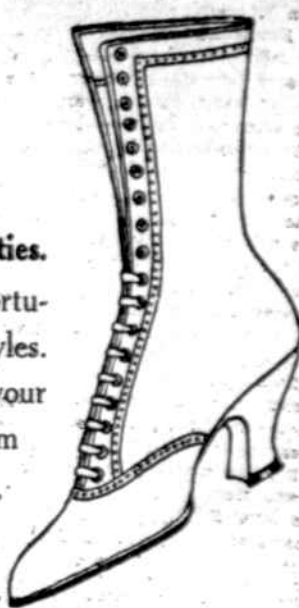
Champagne Kid with white tops.

Dark Gray Kid with white tops.

Dark Blue Kid with white tops.

In new wave-top style, turn soles and covered heel to match vamp. All sizes and widths. Included also in the above lot are about 75 pairs broken sizes of all-ivory and pearl-gray kid.

400 pairs also of White Sea Island and Nile Cloth Boots, with white ivory or regular soles. Choice, pair.....**\$3.95**  
Kann's—Fourth Floor.



## INDIAN STUDENT GRATEFUL

Urges All Redmen Who Can to Go to the Carlisle School.

Carlisle, Pa., April 9.—Superintendent Oscar H. Lippe, of the Carlisle Indian School, is in receipt of a letter from Stephen Reuben, a Nez Perce Indian, who left the school thirty-three years ago. Mr. Reuben says he has not escaped the temptation of the reservation, but he is thankful that he has been given strength and courage to rise when he fell and "stand like a man." He urges the pupils to make use of their opportunities here, for they will be thankful some day, as he is today, for what Carlisle is doing for the Indian.

He says, among other things: "I allowed not my hair to grow below my ears, I wear still the stiff head collar on my neck and I wear a good suit like I had on while at Carlisle. I am living on a farm, raise grain, vegetables and fruit, and drive six horses with train wagon just like I did in Bucks County, Pa. I have a house for myself from what I learned of the carpenter's trade at Carlisle. I have 1.50 fruit trees, one-half bearing fruit now."

## College Hampers Girl's Soul.

San Francisco, April 9.—Defying paternal authority and scoring present-day methods of education, Miss Violette Wilson, daughter of J. Stitt Wilson, the former mayor of Berkeley, has withdrawn from the University of California. She announced that it was her intention to develop her own soul and that she intended to get an education from real life and not one of the whole significance of which lay in a college diploma. Miss Wilson registered in letters and sciences at the university last August, but after a few months decided that her studies were hampering rather than assisting her mental growth. So, despite the wishes of her parents, she left the classroom.

## Walked 35 Miles to Wed.

Bluefield, W. Va., April 9.—Miss Myrtle Pendleton, a pretty 17-year-old girl, and Richard Harold, 35 years old and blind, of Letcher County, Va., eloped. The girl eloped with her parents and walked seven miles over rough, muddy roads to Cowan Creek to join her lover, and the two walked through the snow over almost impassable roads thirty-five miles into Wise County, Va., where they were married.

## SOCIETY PLANS AID FOR BRITISH WOUNDED

Entertainment at Octagon House During Horse Show Week Will Help War's Victims.

A social program for the benefit of wounded British soldiers will be conducted in the Octagon House, May 6 to 12, in conjunction with the National Capital Horse Show. The functions will be under the auspices of prominent society women of Washington, assisted by leaders of the younger social set.

The garden of Octagon House will be fitted for the serving of tea, between 4:30 o'clock and 7 o'clock, and for dancing, from 9 o'clock until midnight. A stage for vaudeville entertainment also will be erected. In booths representing the various British colonies characteristic articles will be sold.

Arranging the benefit program, which has been endorsed by Col. Robert M. Thompson, one of those interested in the horse show, are: Mrs. William Corcoran Rustie, Mrs. J. Borden Harrison, Mrs. George Howard, Mrs. Paul Bartlett and Miss Ernst.

## New U-Boat Has No Periscope.

The Hague, April 9.—German factories are working night and day turning out a new style submarine of enormous size and power. They are without periscopes.

## WHAT DOES NR STAND FOR?

A Free Sample Given to All Who Guess.

What do the letters NR stand for? You can get a free sample of this household necessity if you will go to your druggist and tell him what NR means.

As a hint for helping him to guess correctly, we will tell you that the remedy is the surest, safest relief for constipation that has yet been offered to the public. It is known by your druggist and by millions of users all over the United States. NR comes in tablet form in tin boxes—is pleasant to take—purely for inactive liver, biliousness, constipation, rheumatism and stomach and liver troubles. It costs 25c a box and is advertised by the sentence—"Take one tonight and you'll feel better in the morning."

Use your ingenuity and get a free sample of these tablets.

At People's Drug Stores: 7th and N. W., 7th and E. N. W., 14th and N. W., and 7th and M. N. W.

## PRACTICAL HEALTH TALKS

Dr. Whitney's popular articles on health and beauty subjects in several leading magazines have been attracting marked attention for a number of years. No other writer on similar topics is better equipped for the work, for Dr. Whitney has established an enviable reputation as a specialist and is endowed with the ability to make herself easily understood by her readers. She will answer all letters relating to her department as promptly as possible. All letters should be accompanied by a stamped envelope and should be addressed care of this paper.

## THE TRAGIC POWER OF PRUSSIC ACID.

I am not going to use the recent sad ending of love's young dream in the woods at Lake Forest, Wis., for an exhortation to parents as to their responsibility concerning the well-being of their children. Another aspect of the case strikes me at this writing, and that is the ease with which so swift and deadly a poison as cyanide of potassium can be procured by any one who desires it.

Because the cyanides are used very extensively in the arts, they are readily accessible. Potassium cyanide is used in photography, in silver electroplating, in the gliding of metals, in gold mining, in the manufacture of certain dyes, etc., and wherever it is employed, quantities of this powerful poison are constantly kept on hand.

The acid which this salt gives up, hydrocyanic or commonly known as prussic acid, is widely distributed in nature, oil of bitter almonds being one of the best known. Thus, of 42 cases of cyanide poisoning collected by Wittmaus, sixty-one were due to this oil, its poisonous action being entirely due to the prussic acid contained in it. I believe many obscure cases of illness and death could have been traced to the use of this oil when it was employed in confectionery, baking, etc., before the advent of synthetic flavoring agents. Today bar aldehyd is used instead of the perfume of bitter almonds, and this contains no prussic acid. However, there are a great many other avenues through which unconscious poisoning by this deadly product is brought about. Many plants contain it. A few cases of severe, even fatal, poisoning, especially in children, are reported from eating kernels of the peach, of the common cherry, of apple seeds, and of wild black cherries.

Thus a little girl of five died after seventy hours of suffering from an unknown quantity of cherry kernels. The bark and leaves of many plants belonging to the plum family also contain prussic acid. Therefore chewing these plants and swallowing the juices may be taken in sufficient quantities, to poison the victim. It may not result in fatal poisoning, yet the whole subject is important and should be used as a warning. When the white crystals of potassium cyanide themselves are used, the action is a trifle slower than when the acid

which this salt gives up is employed. So tragic is its power, and the fumes alone are deadly, and the most dramatic about which your foolish family and friends twist you. Rise above their inanity. Elevated freckles can be bleached out by applying daily an ointment containing from 5 to 40 grains of copper oleate to an ounce of cold cream.

## Answers to Queries.

**Freckles**—My dear child, you must not make a tragedy out of so simple and innocuous a matter as a few freckles about which your foolish family and friends twist you. Rise above their inanity. Elevated freckles can be bleached out by applying daily an ointment containing from 5 to 40 grains of copper oleate to an ounce of cold cream.

**Myrtle H.**—An oily or greasy skin can be remedied by applying a lotion of borie acid, 1/2 dram; alcohol, 1/2 ounce; rosewater, 8 1/2 ounces.

**Mrs. Foster**—Why do you not consult a physician? Earache is nature's cry that something in this vicinity needs investigating. A tiny hot water bottle or a tiny bag made from the finger of an old glove and filled with hot salt sometimes affords relief.

**Perplexed**—Headache is caused in the majority of cases by eye strain or constipation. The latter is a very frequent cause in children and young girls.

**Young Mother**—A fine tooth comb should never be used on a baby's scalp. It is possible you may have irritated it in this way. Give up everything for a week, including soap and water, and apply twice daily: Powdered oxide of zinc, 1 dram; pure lard, 1 ounce.

(Copyright, 1915.)

**"Dead" Soldier Makes Speech.**  
Appleton, Wis., April 9.—Lawrence College students were startled the other day by the death of Elwood Smith, of Rhineland, his father having reported that he was killed while fighting with the French army. Next morning Smith walked into the chapel and delivered an address on his experience with a Canadian regiment in France.

## TO SHOW SOLONS HOW AN ARMY MOBILIZES

New York Guardsmen Will Invite Congressmen to View Maneuvers at Sheephead Bay.

The members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States will be invited to come to New York in the forthcoming maneuvers of 10,000 National Guardsmen at Sheephead Bay. George P. Dillenback, in charge of the maneuvers, announced yesterday that negotiations were now being held with a view of having a special train run from Washington to New York and back again for the congressional party.

Maj. General John F. O'Ryan's plans to mobilize the entire National Guard of Greater New York by utilizing thousands of privately-owned automobiles will be a spectacular exhibition, according to the National Guardsmen.

Mayor Mitchell, himself one of the foremost advocates of national defense, has promised to co-operate in every way to make the event a success, and automobile speed limitations will be removed during the early morning hours of May 21, when Maj. Gen. O'Ryan's plan to concentrate the troops from all parts of the greater city at Sheephead Bay in the shortest possible time will be put into effect.

## RECALLS DAYS OF OLD SOUTH.

Miss Louise Williams to Portray Quaint Negro Characters.

Miss Louise Alice Williams, of Georgia, who has attained note in her portrayal of the fast-waning types of the quaint old negro characters of the South, will be heard at Raucher's on Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock before a brilliant assembly from the Cabinet, Congressional, army and navy circles.

Miss Williams recently delighted the guests of Gen. and Mrs. Barnett at the Navy Barracks in an after-dinner recital and also those of Mr. Champ Clark at Mrs. Clark's reception at Congress Hall Hotel last week.

Miss Williams, a Southern woman and the daughter of a prominent Confederate veteran, has chosen as her vocation the mission of perpetuating the old black nursery and the tale-telling old "uncles" of the South in their folklore stories and old negro spirituals.

Miss Williams will be assisted by Miss Mildred Marmion Brosius, a gifted harpist, and by Miss Lenore Byrnes Fuller, soprano, of South Carolina, who will sing old songs and ballads of the South.

## Kills Bear Near Town.

Toledo, Oreg., April 9.—Arthur Nye, superintendent of the city water works, while on a trip up Mill Creek, encountered a bear. Armed with a revolver, Mr. Nye pursued the bear and succeeded in getting a few chance shots, but to no effect. Mr. Nye's two hounds quit the trail of a wildcat they were after and turned the bear back face to face with his pursuer, who, from short range, planted a bullet between the animal's eyes. The killing occurred within three miles of town.

## SERBIAN TROOPS DIE BY THOUSANDS

About 7,000 Go Into Camp Near Corfu and in Two Months Nearly All Die.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.  
Rome, April 9.—In a grove of oranges and olive trees close to the sea on the small island of Vido, near Corfu, thousands of tents were pitched about two months ago to shelter 20,000 Serbian soldiers, the youngest and most exhausted men of the Serbian army after the retreat across Albania to the Adriatic.

The encampment, however, proved too large, as the number of soldiers for whom accommodations had been provided was greatly overestimated. In fact, only 1,000 soldiers arrived, and they only arrived to die.

They were so utterly exhausted that their very human was left of them but their eyes it is to be feared.

Hundreds of them died as soon as they were landed, many are dying every day. Only a few are still alive, but their death is only a question of weeks, perhaps of days, and before long the encampment will be empty save for a single soldier who will be left on the small island of Vido.

## JUNIOR LEAGUE HOLDS EIGHTH ANNUAL DANCE

Maxwell A. Ostrow Lauds Preparedness and Patriotic Spirit in Address at Entertainment.

The eighth annual entertainment and dance of the Junior League was held Friday night in the club rooms, Eighth and K streets northwest. The principal speakers at the entertainment were Dr. L. B. Grossman and Maxwell A. Ostrow. President Max Minkowsky presided. Those participating in the musical program were Abe and William Goldberger and F. S. Coorstein.

Maxwell Ostrow made an earnest plea for preparedness. He asserted that "any person who places the mere value of dollars and cents above the safety of the country is not worthy of being called a patriot."

Dr. B. L. Grossman spoke on "The Reward for Your Efforts." The speakers lauded the principles of the Junior League and urged the members to continue their work.

## BRITISH LINER TORPEDOED.

Chantala Sent to Bottom by Submarine—Two Others Sunk.

London, April 9.—The British liner Chantala has been sunk by a submarine. The British steamers Brautnon and Clyde have been blown up, presumably by mines.

Lloyd's dispatches announcing the destruction of the three vessels state that the crews of the Brautnon and Clyde were saved, but give no information with reference to the Chantala's sailors. The last named vessel was the largest of the three.

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The other point is the system of modern credit at cash prices. We'll gladly charge all furniture purchases; and you can pay the bill at convenient future dates. No annoying details—no red tape. Just say "charge it."



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**SULKY CARTS** **\$3.98**

(Without hood.)

This new pattern Sturgis folding Sulky Cart—just the thing for the baby's outing. Very strong construction. Price, including hood, \$4.98.

**\$4.98**

Strongly made Sturgis Go-Carts; folding hood; continuous pattern all-metal pusher; rubber-tire wheels; very substantially made. The price regularly is \$6.98. For today, \$4.98.